

The Summerville News

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SUMMERVILLE, CHATTOOGA COUNTY, GEORGIA—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2020

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Staff Photo

**TRION OFFICIALS CELEBRATE AS TWO COMPANIES
Look To Expand And Build Within Its Industrial Park**

Trion Supports Medical Cannabis Facility; If State Approves, Building Starts Jan. 2

A resolution supporting a medical cannabis operation in Chattooga County continues to move forward with the Town of Trion's support.

The town voted to support Remedium Life Science of Georgia's application to build a 100,000 square-foot facility in Trion's industrial park off Hwy. 27.

"There are four reasons why we are here in Trion. This community is the number one reason why we are here. Your outreach to us where we identified this industrial park as being a place we wanted to put on our application is the number one reason why we are here," said Remedium's Vice President of Human Resources and Government Affairs Frank Morris.

"We are seeking a medical cannabis license. It's a very competitive process," he told the town council during

its work session on Tuesday evening.

Remedium officials visited the industrial park in January and identified a 27-acre site. They met with County Commissioner Jason Winters and Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority worker Spencer Hogg.

"Commissioner Winters and Spencer met us on a very cold weekend in January to show us the sight," Morris said.

The company wants to invest \$15 million into a facility that will produce pharmaceutical-grade marijuana for medical use. Originally it was misreported that it would be a hydroponics operation. Morris clarified that Tuesday and confirmed it would not use hydroponics for its operation.

Once the facility is operational, the company will hire 50 employees. Remedium is operated by pharmaceutical

and healthcare professionals.

This type of pharmaceutical industry is just emerging in Georgia. State legislators voted last year to allow the construction of six low-THC oil facilities in Georgia. Remedium wants to be one of the six.

In order to acquire a Georgia license, companies must agree to build at least a \$5 million facility.

"They are not going to award you a license and then let you sit on it. They have put in the statute that you have to be operational within a year. Well, we are not going to take that year. We when win that license, we are going to stand it up right and we have building partners that are already on board with this. It does take time and money to stand up a 100,000 square-foot building.

But we are ready to make that investment. We started this

investment 20 months ago. We evaluated 16 sites before we visited six sites and decide this is where we want to [locate]," Morris said. "If we win the license and we are notified on Dec. 30, construction is going to start on Jan. 2."

During the town meeting, a resident asked about security.

"It absolutely has to be secure facility from the facility itself to the track and trace (the product). The law state that. Our property will be entirely fenced in . . . We will have limited access, guard service and multiple barriers in and out. We've got security inside the building and cameras. There is limited access depending on your job and why you need to do what you need to do," Morris said.

The council unanimously voted to support Remedium efforts.